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WHAT AMERICAN

(Continued from page nine.)

from Carcar across this surprisingly fertile island to the sea beyond. What the traveler sees at Zambouanga or at Holo he sees all through Luzon, wherever the American has made his presence felt. There has been activity, energy, hopefulness, wise building for the future.

Baguio is another astonishing result of American foresight. Nature had been generous in the extreme in providing the hills and dales and an equaled climate for the mountain capital in Benguet. Art, backed by American optimism and enthusiasm, has only begun to show its hand. Every visitor finds his admiration changing into wonder, as the splendid high grade automobiles climb the great Benguet road. The Zigzag, the many bridges over the rapidly running stream, and the finding of road space against the sheer sides of the gorge tell their own story of American engineering skill and American determination. But there is far greater reason for pride in that foresighted wisdom which realized that the man and woman of the lowlands, and particularly the large company of those whose lives are being shortened by the great white plague, needed a place and an opportunity for rest and recreation and complete change of climate and an abundance of fresh air under such favoring conditions as those found at Baguio. When once these things are realized all the money spent in building Baguio and in providing approaches to it will seem a mere bagatelle. Nor is it unreasonable to suppose a day when the well-to-do of more than one Oriental country will find in the summer capital of the Philippines the ideal spot for homes of comfort during the hot days of the year.

Peace and Prosperity.

But piers and roads and government buildings and public improvements are advances under American administration which are obvious at once. There are many other changes to be found on inquiry or an examination of public statistics. What a suggestion of the blessings of peace and order, of sound money and business stability is given in the figures of exports and imports when the totals of 1899 are placed beside those of 1910. That this business development will go forward by leaps and bounds no one has any doubt. With continued favorable conditions American control means untold millions of dollars added to the wealth of the Filipinos. What years have brought to pass is a fair prophecy for the future.

Great Medical Center.

Much as these visible signs of progress appeal to the observer, one who thinks along educational lines sees far greater reason for satisfaction in what American initiative has accomplished in certain other directions. The Philippine General Hospital is ranked as one of the best in the Orient. What it is to mean for the islands and for the world no one can even estimate. That dreaded diseases work awful destruction is perfectly clear. The visitor sees the mourners go about the streets. He notes the markings of disease on many a face. He sees in the high death rate for children certain defeat of the hopes of the future. That the splendidly equipped hospital is to have much to do in saving human life and in bettering its conditions is sure. The field for investigation of tropical diseases is as inviting as any in which modern medical science is working. The hopeful combination in Manila of a skilled university faculty in medicine and an up-to-date hospital must of necessity stimulate to rich results for the Orient. The stranger who catches glimpses only in a hurried visit can not escape the impression that American control in the Philippines has been attended by a marked interest in movements for individual and social betterment. The steps taken for the segregation of lepers and the studies made in cures for leprosy, the work of the several departments of the bureau of science, the governmental plan of Billid prison, the ideals of administration—never in all human history has such spirit been shown by a governing nation to dependents of alien stock, brought under its control by the fortunes of war. If nothing else has been accomplished in a dozen fruitful years, at least human life has been emphasized as more valuable and the worth of the individual has been magnified.

Agricultural Development.

All along the line American thought seems to be working busily to make the Filipinos healthier, wealthier and happier. The bureau of forestry is doing a work of great value in discovering the wealth of the woodlands and in mapping it for proper and profitable exploitation. The bureau of agriculture has its own peculiar problems upon which careful investigation is being made. If the soil can be made more productive, if the diseases affecting animals and plants can be checked, if better methods of cultivation can be encouraged, the bureau also must be placed among the foremost of the effective forces which American energy has put to work. The

conquest of rinderpest and of pneumo-pneumonia in cattle is as important from one viewpoint as the lowering of the infantile death rate and the checking of tuberculosis are from another. They are but types of the many measures which Americans have forwarded with the fundamental idea of making the Philippines a better place for the Filipino, and the Filipino healthier and more prosperous in every way.

Educational Advancement.

In the domain of public education control have wrought a tremendous revolution. No mere hasty review by an occasional visitor can do justice to such a theme. In many ways it is the crowning glory of American administration. The splendid new buildings for schools in many a province, the carefully outlined courses of study, the earnest enthusiasm of the selected teachers, the high-minded intelligence of the heads of the bureau of education, are the external and visible evidences of the successful working out of a great idea. But it is the idea itself that is inspiring. The children of today are to be the Filipinos of tomorrow. In saying to them, "You must be educated and trained in order to accomplish the best results, in order to advance yourselves as a people," American educating comes nearest to the true idea of American occupation, namely to prepare the Filipinos for nationality and independence in days to come. It has not been the usual plan in colonial administration to set to work at once to better the intellectual condition of the people in order that they may the sooner attain to national standards and so be prepared for independence.

Requisites to Independence.

The order of the words is the one which the casual observer must use. Nationality must precede independence. To reverse the order and grant independence first would be fatal. No hasty impression can make any one think the islands ready for self-government. The Igorot in his mountain home and the Moro of the south have nothing in common with the man in the lowlands of Luzon. There is no such thing as a "Filipino" except in the very narrow sense of an inhabitant of the Philippines. There must be a "Filipino" with common ideals, common inspirations, common language and common ideas before there can be a Filipino nation. Here is where the bureau of education is doing the great work. It is furnishing in English the common language. Its courses of study work steadily toward community of ideas and mental processes. Its athletics are breaking down tribal barriers and paving the way to friendly rivalries which will bring better acquaintances and more frequent interchange of visits, with consequent community of language, customs and thought. In fact the bureau of education, if permitted to work with a generations of boys and girls, is certain to hasten that sentiment of nationality which must be the foundation of true independence. Successful Colonial Policy.

American occupation of the Philippines has meant much to the people. Each year is certain to increase the prosperity now enjoyed. The American visitor who takes a rapid trip from place to place sees on every side the evidences of American accomplishment. If he looks beneath the surface he discovers great forces in operation working toward beneficent results. American energy, American industry, American skill, American initiative, are tremendous powers when they are rightly utilized. The carping critic may find easily occasion for fault finding. One who looks at things in the large, noting both difficulties and opportunities cannot escape the feeling that the net results of a dozen years of American domination in the Philippine Islands are highly creditable to a nation whose heart is right so far as colonial administration is concerned.

MASONRY IN HAWAII.

Rutland (Vt.) Herald, January 31: White duck is the fashionable dress at Honolulu at the present time and the prevailing temperature is from sixty to eighty degrees, according to a letter just received by Phil H. Sawyer of this city from Charles H. Pierce, Mr. Pierce who is connected with the United States geological survey and is stationed in Hawaii, is a member of Cairo temple of Shriner of this city. He states that the Hawaiian climate is delightful.

Masonry has secured a strong foothold on the island. There are three lodges at Honolulu, Scottish Rite to the 32d degree and York Rite to the chapter and commandery. There are also three Eastern Star chapters. On the island of Maui, another of the group, there is a Blue lodge and on the island of Hawaii there is a Blue lodge and an Eastern Star chapter.

Mr. Pierce expects to remain at Honolulu, which is on the island of Oahu, for several months, although the island of Hawaii is his especial field of work.

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